

At new page 47, please add the following:

--ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a method for the rapid and reliable detection of drug-induced mutations in the reverse transcriptase gene allowing the simultaneous characterization of a range of codons involved in drug resistance using specific sets of probes optimized to function together in a reverse-hybridization assay. More particularly, the present invention relates to a method for determining the susceptibility to antiviral drugs of HIV strains present in a biological sample, comprising: (i) if need be releasing, isolating or concentrating the polynucleic acids present in the sample; (ii) if need be amplifying the relevant part of the reverse transcriptase genes present in said sample with at least one suitable primer pair; (iii) hybridizing the polynucleic acids of step (i) or (ii) with at least two RT gene probes hybridizing specifically to one or more target sequences with said probes being applied to known locations on a solid support and with said probes being capable of simultaneously hybridizing to their respective target regions under appropriate hybridization and wash conditions allowing the detection of homologous targets, or said probes hybridizing specifically with a sequence complementary to any of said target sequences, or a sequence wherein T is replaced by U; (iv) detecting the hybrids formed in step (iii); (v) inferring the nucleotide sequence at the codons of interest and/or the amino acids of the codons of interest and/or antiviral drug resistance spectrum, and possibly the type of HIV isolates involved from the differential hybridization signal(s) obtained in step (iv).—

After the abstract (page 47) please insert the accompanying SEQUENCE LISTING.